

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A guide plate comprising:
an incidence end face to introduce illumination light; and
an emission function face provided to emit the illumination light,
wherein said emission function face is provided with a number of ridges, each of which has
a first flank face directed to the incidence end face ~~and~~, a second flank face opposite to the first
flank face and a flat top face, and
wherein each of said ridges runs so as to traverse obliquely the emission function face in a
direction which is inclined at an angle falling within a predetermined angle range with respect to
the incidence end face, said ridges being arranged disconnectedly at intervals.
2. (ORIGINAL) A guide plate as defined in claim 1, wherein said angle range is from 5
degrees to 45 degrees.
3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A guide plate as defined in claim 1 or 2, wherein at least
said second flank face is inclined so as to increase in distance from the incidence end face.
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A guide plate as defined in claim 3, wherein both of said
first and second flank faces are inclined so as to increase in distance from the incidence end face.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A guide plate as defined in claim 1 or 2, wherein each of
said ridges has a decreasing cross section so as to be tapered toward a ridge top portion.
6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A guide plate as defined in claim 3, wherein each of said
ridges has a decreasing cross section so as to be tapered toward a ridge top portion.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A guide plate as defined in claim 4, wherein each of said

ridges has a decreasing cross section so as to be tapered toward a ridge top portion.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A guide plate as defined in claim 1 or 2, wherein said emission function face includes a first foot portion connecting with the first flank face and a second foot portion connecting with the second flank face, said second foot portion provides a stepwise difference such that a thickness of the guide plate is greater at the second foot portion than at the first foot portion.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A guide plate as defined in claim 3, wherein said emission function face includes a first foot portion connecting with the first flank face and a second foot portion connecting with the second flank face, said second foot portion provides a stepwise difference such that a thickness of the guide plate is greater at the second foot portion than at the first foot portion.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A guide plate as defined in claim 5, wherein said emission function face includes a first foot portion connecting with the first flank face and a second foot portion connecting with the second flank face, said second foot portion provides a stepwise difference such that a thickness of the guide plate is greater at the second foot portion than at the first foot portion.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A surface light source device of side light type comprising:
a guide plate which has an incidence end face to introduce illumination light and an emission function face provided to emit the illumination light; and
a primary light source disposed beside the guide plate to supply illumination light,
wherein said emission function face is provided with a number of ridges, each of which has a first flank face directed to the incidence end face and, a second flank face opposite to the first flank face and a flat top face, and

wherein each of said ridges runs so as to traverse obliquely the emission function face in a direction which is inclined at an angle falling within a predetermined angle range with respect to the incidence end face, said ridges being arranged disconnectedly at intervals.

12. (ORIGINAL) A surface light source device as defined in claim 11, wherein said angle range is from 5 degrees to 45 degrees.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A surface light source device as defined in claim 11 or 12, wherein at least said second flank face is inclined so as to increase in distance from the incidence end face.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A surface light source device as defined in claim 13, wherein both of said first and second flank faces are inclined so as to increase in distance from the incidence end face.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A surface light source device as defined in claim 11 or 12, wherein each of said ridges has a decreasing cross section so as to be tapered toward a ridge top portion.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A surface light source device as defined in claim 13, wherein each of said ridges has a decreasing cross section so as to be tapered toward a ridge top portion.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A surface light source device as defined in claim 14, wherein each of said ridges has a decreasing cross section so as to be tapered toward a ridge top portion.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A surface light source device as defined in claim 11 or 12, wherein said emission function face includes a first foot portion connecting with the first flank face and a second foot portion connecting with the second flank face, said second foot portion provides a stepwise difference such that a thickness of the guide plate is greater at the second foot portion than at the first foot portion.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A surface light source device as defined in claim 13, wherein said emission function face includes a first foot portion connecting with the first flank face and a second foot portion connecting with the second flank face, said second foot portion provides a stepwise difference such that a thickness of the guide plate is greater at the second foot portion than at the first foot portion.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A surface light source device as defined in claim 15, wherein said emission function face includes a first foot portion connecting with the first flank face and a second foot portion connecting with the second flank face, said second foot portion provides a stepwise difference such that a thickness of the guide plate is greater at the second foot portion than at the first foot portion.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A liquid crystal display comprising:
a surface light source device of side light type which has a guide plate having an incidence end face to introduce illumination light and an emission function face provided to emit the illumination light and which has a primary light source disposed beside the guide plate to supply illumination light; and

a liquid crystal display panel to be illuminated by the surface light source device,
wherein said emission function face is provided with a number of ridges, each of which has a first flank face directed to the incidence end face ~~and~~, a second flank face opposite to the first flank face and a flat top face, and

wherein each of said ridges runs so as to traverse obliquely the emission function face in a direction which is inclined at an angle falling within a predetermined angle range with respect to the incidence end face, said ridges being arranged disconnectedly at intervals.

22. (ORIGINAL) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 21, wherein said angle range is from 5 degrees to 45 degrees.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 21 or 22, wherein at least said second flank face is inclined so as to increase in distance from the incidence end face.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 23, wherein both of said first and second flank faces are inclined so as to increase in distance from the incidence end face.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 21 or 22, wherein each of said ridges has a decreasing cross section so as to be tapered toward a ridge top

portion.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 23, wherein each of said ridges has a decreasing cross section so as to be tapered toward a ridge top portion.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 24, wherein each of said ridges has a decreasing cross section so as to be tapered toward a ridge top portion.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 21 or 22, wherein said emission function face includes a first foot portion connecting with the first flank face and a second foot portion connecting with the second flank face, said second foot portion provides a stepwise difference such that a thickness of the guide plate is greater at the second foot portion than at the first foot portion.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 23, wherein said emission function face includes a first foot portion connecting with the first flank face and a second foot portion connecting with the second flank face, said second foot portion provides a stepwise difference such that a thickness of the guide plate is greater at the second foot portion than at the first foot portion.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 25, wherein said emission function face includes a first foot portion connecting with the first flank face and a second foot portion connecting with the second flank face, said second foot portion provides a stepwise difference such that a thickness of the guide plate is greater at the second foot portion than at the first foot portion.

31. (ORIGINAL) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 21 or 22, wherein said surface light source device of side light type is arranged for front-lighting of said liquid crystal display panel.

32. (ORIGINAL) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 23, wherein said surface light source device of side light type is arranged for front-lighting of said liquid crystal display panel.

33. (ORIGINAL) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 25, wherein said surface light source device of side light type is arranged for front-lighting of said liquid crystal display panel.

34. (ORIGINAL) A liquid crystal display as defined in claim 28, wherein said surface light source device of side light type is arranged for front-lighting of said liquid crystal display panel.